

*Coalition is positioned to lead on key policy areas outlined in speech*

**Washington, D.C** - Today, leaders of the **New Democrat Coalition**, chaired by **Congressman Joseph Crowley (NY-07)**

, released the following statement in response to President Obama's State of the Union Address:

"We applaud President Obama for addressing the nation tonight and putting forward a vision focused on achieving sustainable economic growth and ensuring the prosperity of American families and businesses - today and tomorrow.

"The New Democrat Coalition shares the President's commitment to enacting common-sense policy solutions that will lay a foundation for private sector-led job creation, help American businesses and workers compete in the global marketplace, maintain our nation's position as the world's leading innovator, as well as get our fiscal house in order.

"Tonight, the President outlined specific proposals to achieve the long-term economic stability and security our nation needs, including policy areas the New Dems have been the leading voices on in Congress. We have been at the forefront of efforts to advance new and existing trade agreements, reform our corporate tax structure, incentivize innovation and entrepreneurship, prepare students and train American workers for 21st century jobs, and strengthen our national security. Through our newly reorganized task forces, the New Democrat Coalition stands with the President, ready to roll-up our sleeves and propose pragmatic solutions to move our nation forward and provide effective, efficient government.

"The New Democrat Coalition also welcomes President Obama's call for a renewed atmosphere of civility and cooperation. We look forward to working with the Administration, House Leadership and like-minded colleagues to bring forward new, creative ideas to solve the pressing issues facing our nation."

Earlier today, the New Democrats announced seven newly reorganized policy task forces that will guide the work of the Coalition for the 112th Congress: Critical Infrastructure & Manufacturing; Education; Energy; Financial Services; Health Care; Innovation, Competitiveness & Tax Reform; and Trade.

*Statement supported by New Dem Leadership Members, led by Chair Representative Joseph Crowley (NY-07), and Vice-Chairs Representative Ron Kind (WI-3), Representative Jim Himes (CT-4), Representative Rick Larsen (WA-2), Representative Allyson Schwartz (PA-13).*

*The New Democrat Coalition is a Coalition of 43 members of the U.S. House of Representatives who are dedicated to the prosperity and security of American families and business. Founded in 1997, the NDC provides Members of Congress with the opportunity to advance a common sense policy agenda focused on empowering the U.S. to grow economically and maintain a vibrant job market, preserving the U.S. standing as the world's leader in innovation and technological advancement, and strengthening our economic and national security. For more information, visit the New Dems website at <http://ndc.crowley.house.gov>.*

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